

Agenda

1. **Minutes of the last board meeting of 6 May 2004**
2. **The Co-operative Advantage**

This is a draft document for:

- Discussion with key individual co-operatives and co-operators
- Presentation to a meeting of members.
- Presentation to Consumer Affairs Victoria.

The board needs to satisfy itself that the document succeeds in:

- A best analysis of our situation.
- A clear and logical analysis.
- An honest analysis.
- An accurate statement of strengths.
- An analysis that the board endorses.

Basic drafting has been completed. In response to Deputy Chairman, further work is being undertaken on examples and Australian and overseas co-op statistics and increasing graphics content.

What the document does not attempt to do is to provide a basis for identifying minimum and minimum plus income needs. Without this what are we saying and asking?

3. **Co-operative Education.** Things are picking up with the UK Co-operative College. The Deputy Chairman has received a CD Rom and accompanying booklet from the Co-op College. His computer hasn't got all that's required to use the CD so this was forwarded to the Secretary.. The Secretary has reviewed the CD. The material is excellent and targets members of co-operatives consisting of four 20 minute videos with interactive sessions. The primary content is generic and, therefore, usable in Australia but is integrated with UK retail co-operative interviews. It is a high quality production. The issue for CFV is whether we can succeed in using the UK Co-operative College course material and complement with Australian-specific material.

The Co-operative College has also given us access to the first module in the on line member training the College is developing for the Co-operative Group. The address is www.spikyserver.com/co-op This material is user name and password protected.

The introductory notes for the Co-operative Group course have been reproduced for the board on a confidential basis as well as some initial observations on the content developed to date. The introduction to the CD Rom has been reproduced, A different Kind of Business – E.Learning – An Overview and the notes that accompany the CD

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Rom and notes supplied for each module. Descriptive commentaries on each module have also been supplied by the Secretary.

4. **Up to date statistics for australia.coop** to 31 May 2004 and enhanced statistics for the first time include data transfer statistics and comparisons between 2003 and 2004. These further highlight the continued growth of australia.coop
- australia.coop monthly hits 7 January 2003 – May 2004
 - australia.coop monthly hits comparison 2003 and 2004
 - australia.coop monthly page views 7 January 2003 – 31 May 2004
 - australia.coop monthly page view comparisons 2003 and 2004
 - australia.coop monthly visits 7 January 2003 – 31 May 2004
 - australia.coop monthly visit comparisons 2003 and 2004
 - Monthly MB sata transferred comparison 2003 and 2004
 - Monthly megabyte (MB) data transferred 7 January 2003 – 31 May 2004
 - NCU complete downloads 18 October 2003 – 31 May 2004

A recommendation on the future development of australia.coop.

The recommendation follows a meeting on the 25 May 2004 between the Secretary, Deputy Chairman and Peter Jamieson of the North East Telecommunications Co-operative Ltd.

5. **A budget prepared by the Deputy Chairman**, Graeme Charles.
Note that the budget does not address CFV's cash flow and the impact on our cash flow situation of a delayed member income request and the historical pattern of member income received over what period of time. Members can pay up to 30 June.
6. **A briefing on the work of the Secretary** in May and up to 4 June 2004. The report is designed to provide the board with an understanding of the scope and time involvement of the Secretary in CFV activities.
7. **Other matters** – International Day of Co-operatives, 3 July 2004.
8. **Next meeting**

David Griffiths
Secretary